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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, February 13, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended February 8 totaled an estimated 17.5 billion ton-miles, 6.1 percent above the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first six weeks of 1986 was an estimated 100.4 billion ton-miles, up 5.7 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended February 8 totaled 376,488, up 6.2 percent from last year, and 4.5 percent above the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 6.8 percent in the East, 4.8 percent in the South and 6.7 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 11 of the 21 major commodity groups increased. Coal loadings were up 13,885 cars (13.8 percent) and loadings of crushed stone, gravel and sand posted a gain of 2,134 cars (27.6 percent). Twelve of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended February 1 totaled 95,259 trailers and/or containers, 10.7 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first five weeks of the year was 440,658 trailers and/or containers, up 14.4 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 2/8/86:

	Loadings in Week ended February 8, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	24,598	I	1,037	4.4	I	2,015	8.9
Other farm products	3,697	I	401	12.2	D	574	13.4
Metallic ores	11,900	D	2,065	14.8	I	160	1.4
Coal	114,549	I	13,885	13.8	I	11,358	11.0
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	9,852	I	2,134	27.6	I	1,245	14.5
Nonmetallic minerals	8,675	D	1,549	15.2	I	323	3.9
Grain mill products	10,932	D	44	0.4	D	24	0.2
Food and kindred products	10,921	D	154	1.4	I	106	1.0
Primary forest products	11,460	I	341	3.1	I	903	8.5
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,232	I	903	14.3	I	860	10.6
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,552	D	822	5.7	D	529	3.8
Chemicals and allied products	23,964	D	335	1.4	D	430	1.8
Petroleum products	4,812	I	220	4.8	D	243	4.8
Stone, clay and glass products	8,743	I	652	8.1	I	290	3.4
Coke	4,479	D	333	6.9	I	389	9.5
Metals and products	7,651	D	583	7.1	D	1,085	12.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	22,735	I	679	3.1	I	103	0.5
Waste and scrap materials	8,945	I	751	9.2	I	614	7.4
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	5,622	D	1,447	20.5	D	102	1.8
All other carloads	64,005	I	8,484	15.3	I	2,719	4.4
LCL traffic	144	D	12	7.7	D	1	0.7
Total Cars Loaded	378,486	I	22,143	6.2	I	16,377	4.5
Corresponding week of 1985	356,345						

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (6 weeks)	2,160,300	2,045,994	I 5.6
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
5 Weeks ended February 1	82.8	78.4	I 5.6
Week ended February 8	17.5	16.5	I 6.1
6 weeks cumulative	100.4	94.9	I 5.7

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